

The 21cm Reionization Power Spectrum

Aaron Parsons

BY STEVE NADIS ILLUSTRATIONS BY ROEN KELLY

FIRST LIGHT

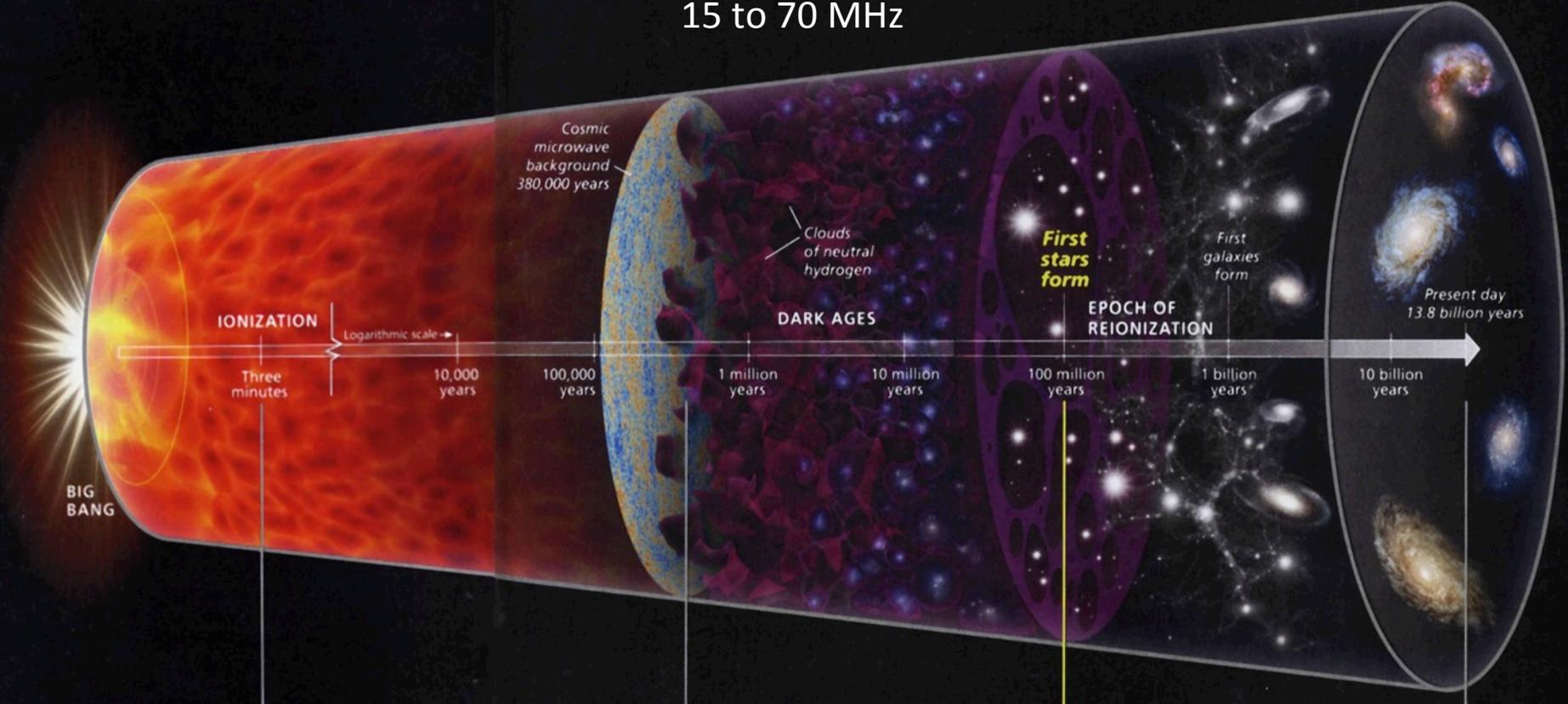
The earliest stars began to glow mere eons after the Big Bang.
Finding them now isn't easy.

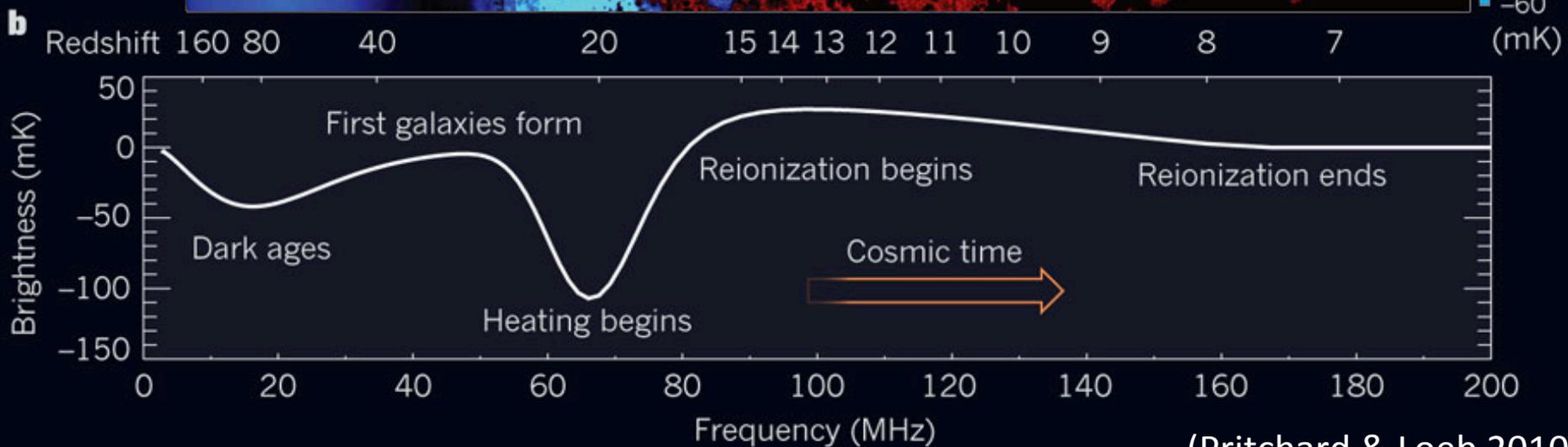
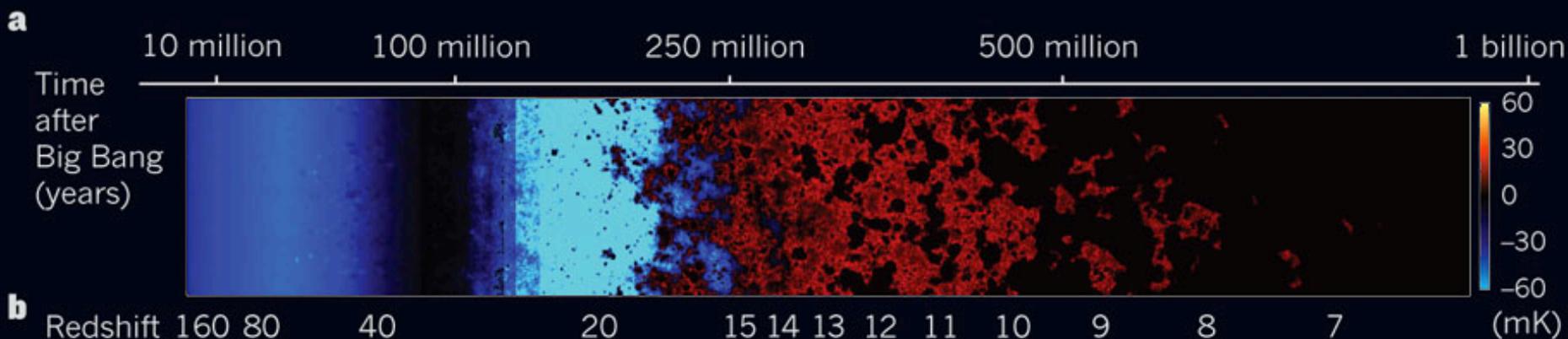
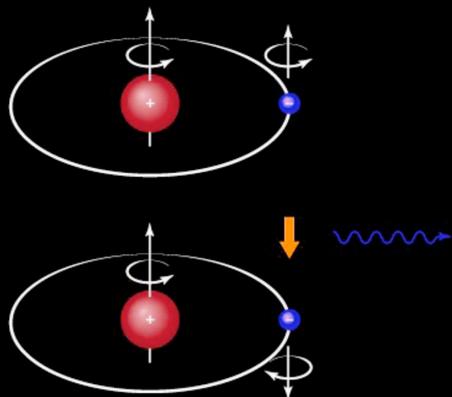
21-Centimeter Cosmology Explained

$z = 100$ to 20
15 to 70 MHz

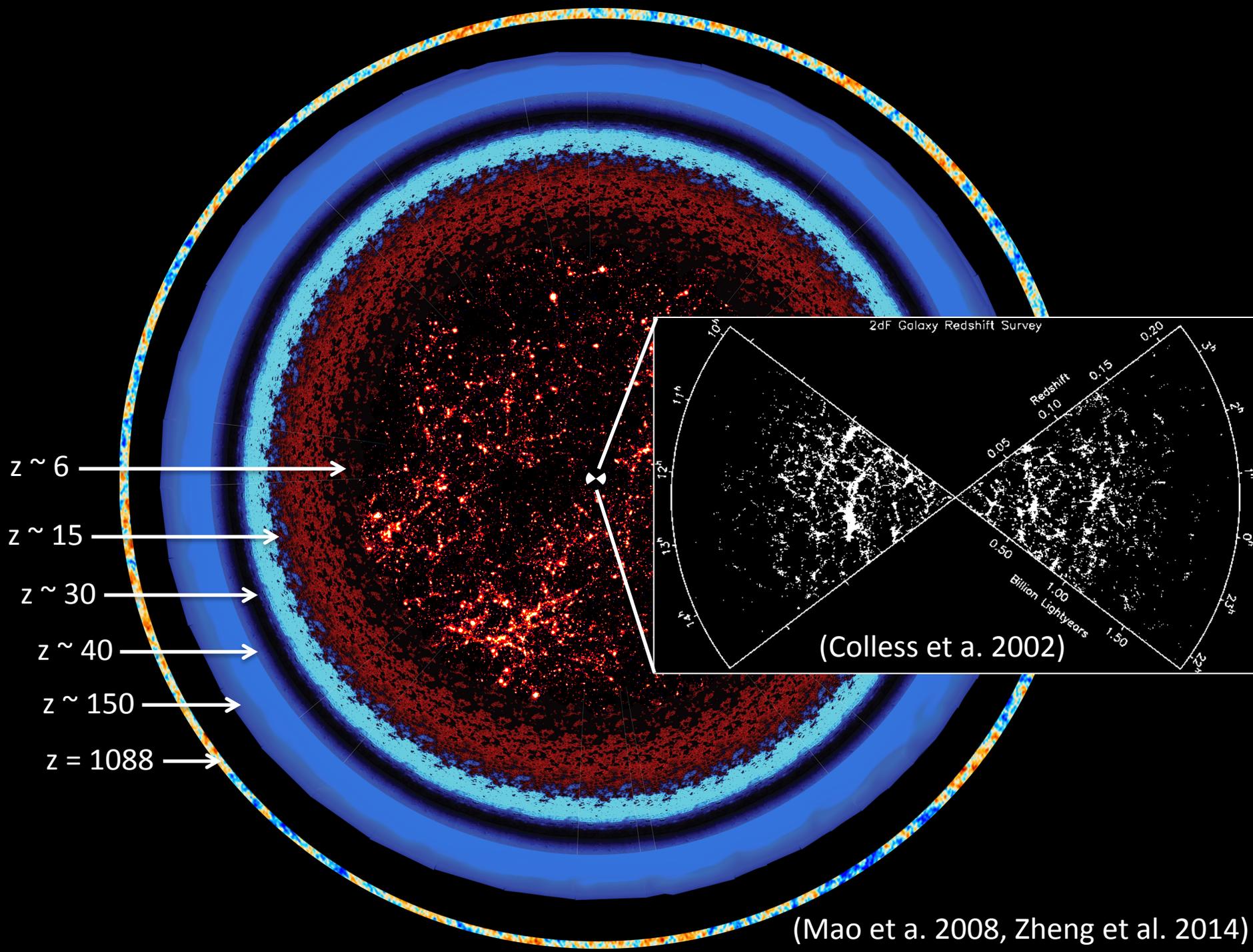
$z = 20$ to 5
70 to 240 MHz

$z = 5$ to 0
240 to 1400 MHz





(Pritchard & Loeb 2010)

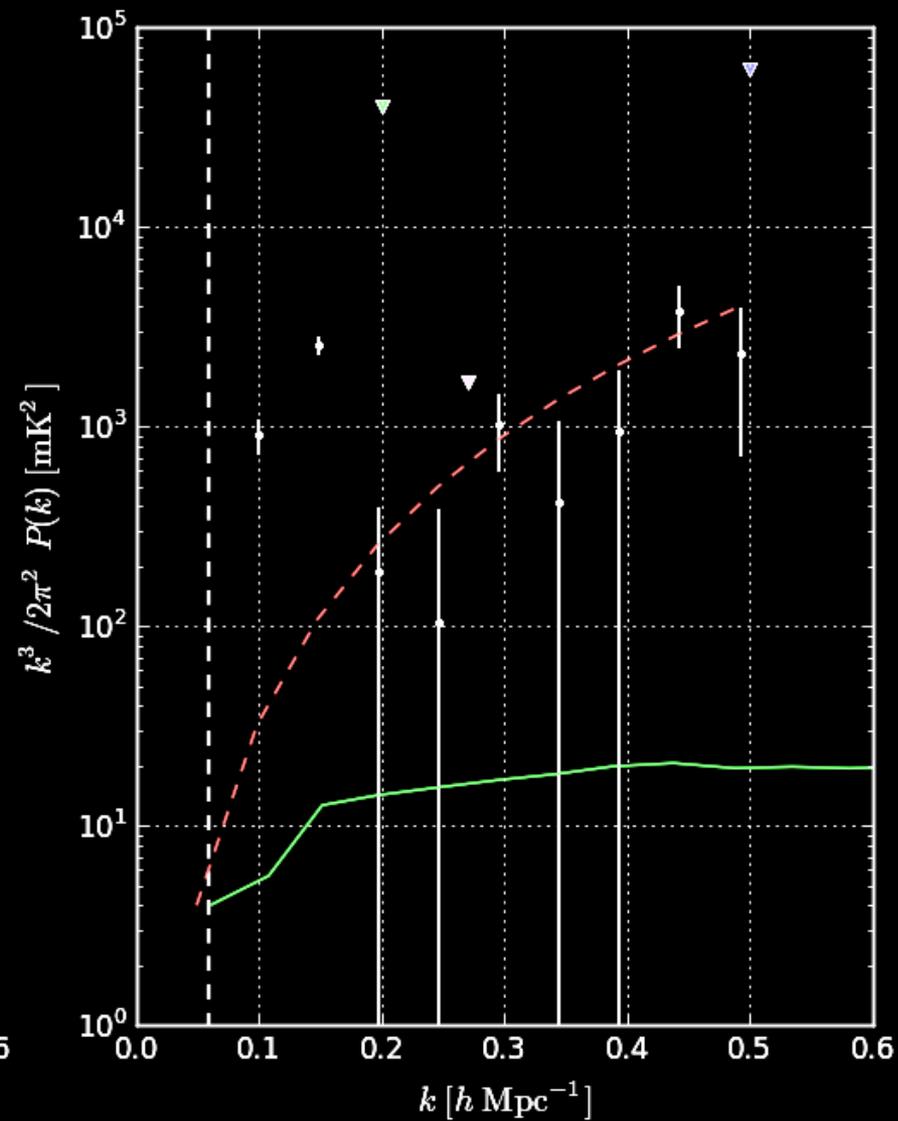
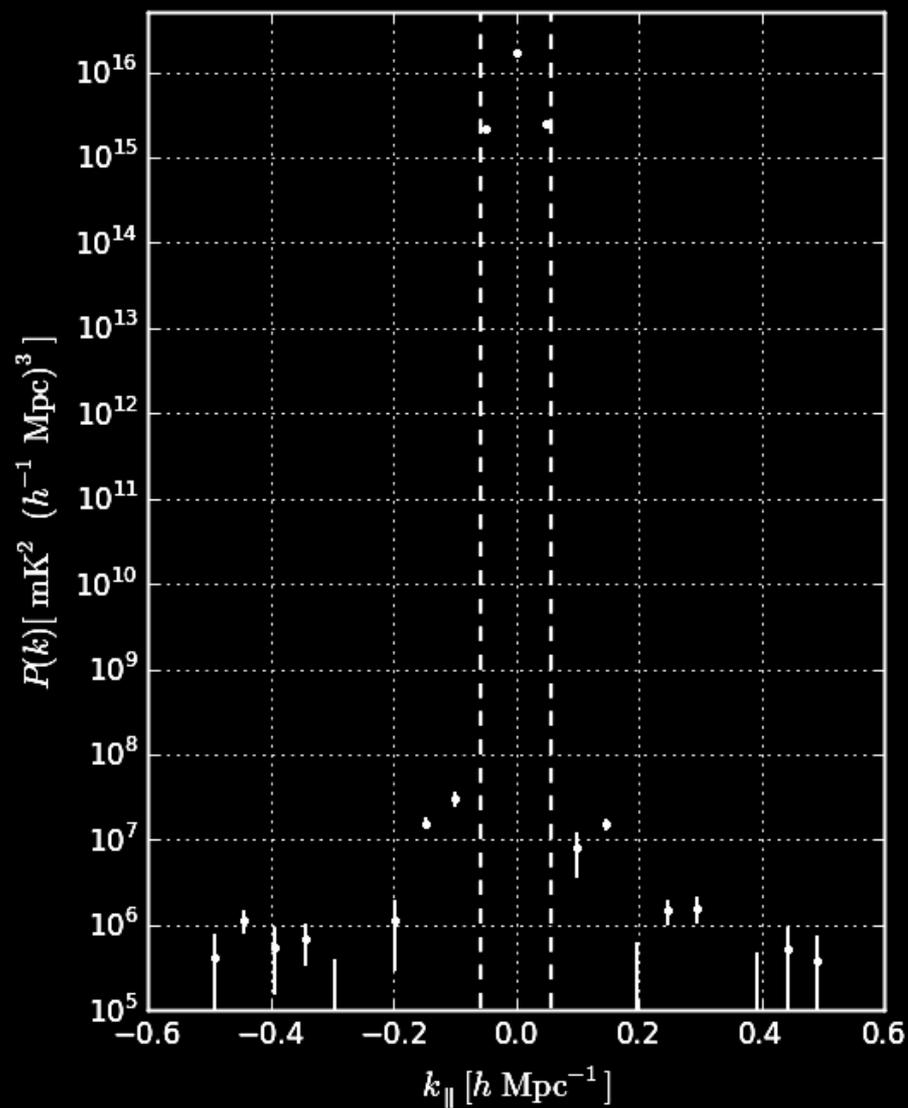


Why 21cm Cosmology

- Line Emission
 - Optically thin
 - Observable even into Dark Ages
 - Directly probes redshift evolution
- Sensitive to
 - Ly- α : Wouthuysen Field Effect
 - X-ray/DM: Heating
 - UV: Ionization
- Integrated measure of galactic properties
 - includes low-mass tails
 - bubble size breaks some degeneracies
- Complementary to
 - CMB
 - optical probes of galaxies
 - other potential lines (e.g. CO, C+)

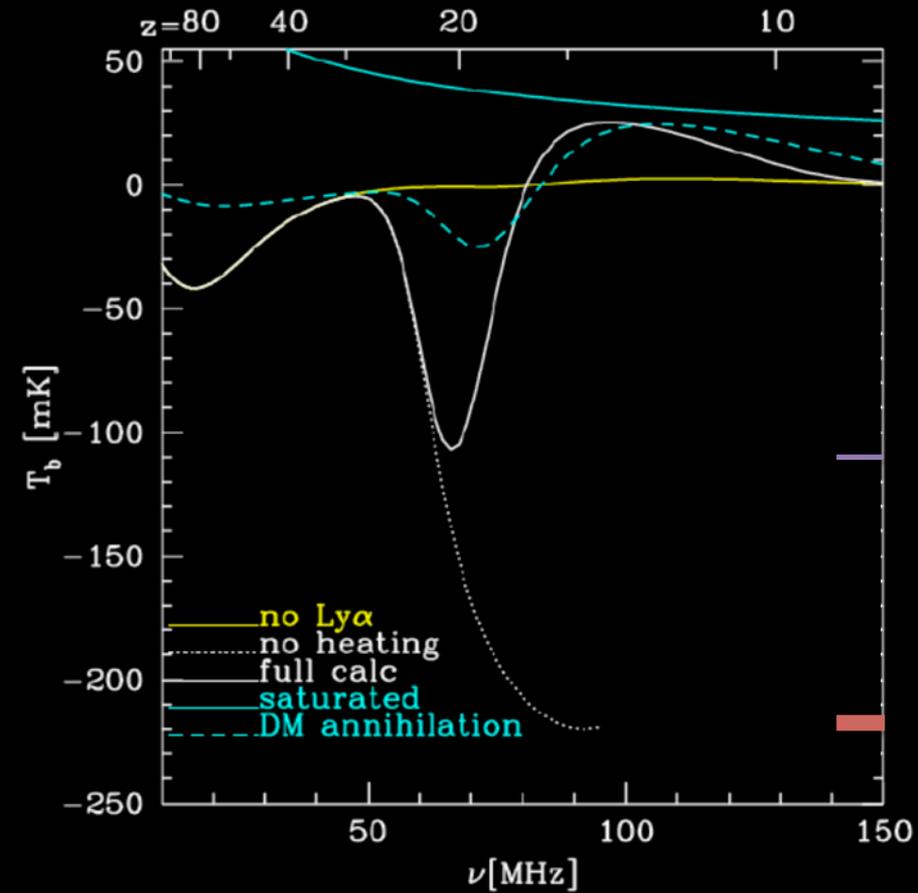
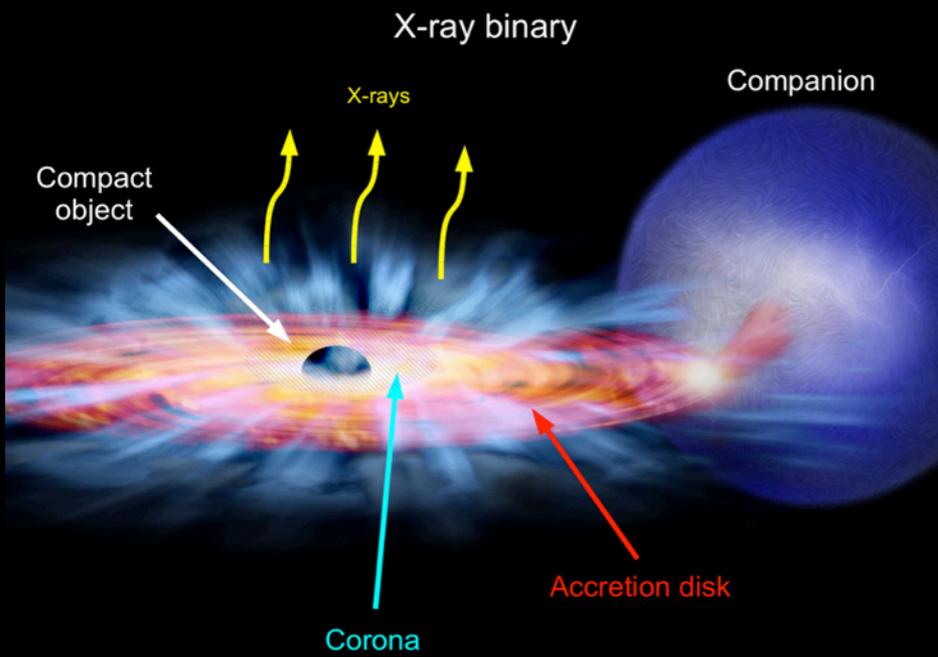
21cm Cosmology: Global + Power Spectrum





(Ali et al. 2015)

$$\delta T_b(\nu) \approx 9x_{\text{HI}}(1+\delta)(1+z)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[1 - \frac{T_{\text{CMB}}(z)}{T_S} \right] \left[\frac{H(z)/(1+z)}{dv_{\parallel}/dr_{\parallel}} \right] \text{mK}$$



- Pritchard & Loeb (2012)
- Mesinger et al. (2013)
- Parsons et al. (2014)
- Ali et al. (2015)

Location: S30° 34', E21° 25' E (South Africa)

Configuration: 331 hex-pack, 21 outriggers

- **Min baseline:** 14.6m (7.8° scale)

- **Max baseline:** 1066m (9' beam)

Array core: 310m diameter

Element: 14m diameter (9° fov @150 MHz)

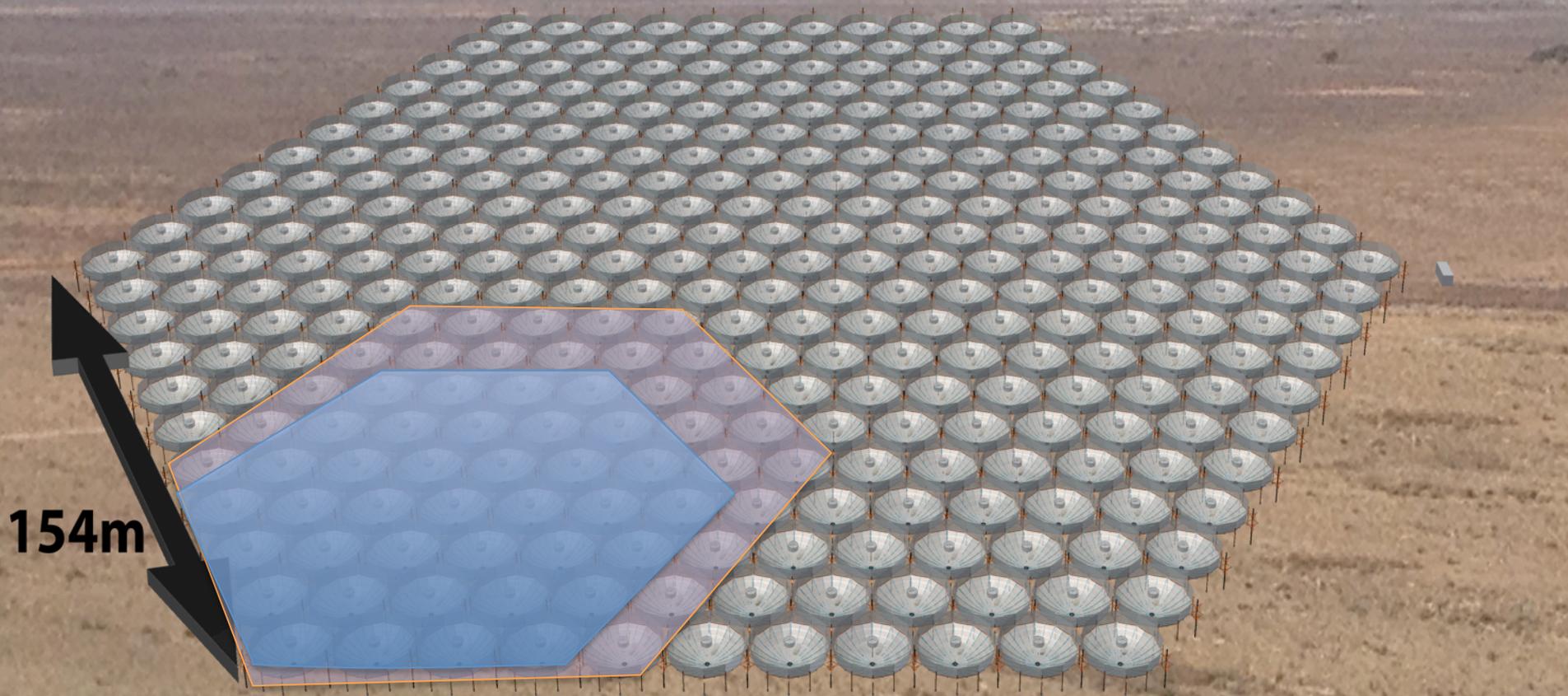
Frequency

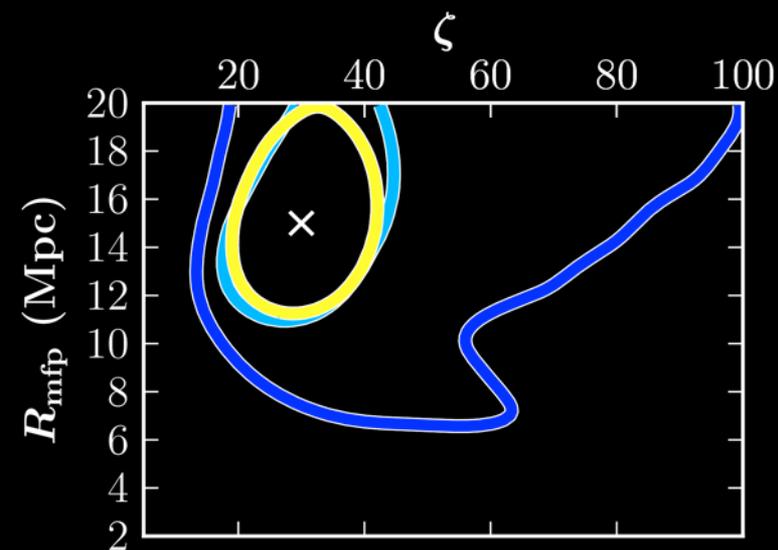
- **Digitized:** 50 - 250 MHz

- **EOR band:** 100 - 200 MHz

- **Channel:** 97.7 kHz

$$T_{\text{sys}} = 100 + T_{\text{sky}}$$





Instrument

Parameter (% error)

(multi- z)

$\frac{\zeta}{\zeta_{\text{fid}}}$

$\frac{R_{\text{mfp}}}{R_{\text{fid,mfp}}}$

$\frac{\log_{10}(T_{\text{vir}}^{\text{min}})}{\log_{10}(T_{\text{vir, fid}}^{\text{min}})}$

LOFAR

1.32 (40.38)

1.03 (20.06)

1.05 (5.43)

HERA

1.03 (11.81)

1.00 (11.99)

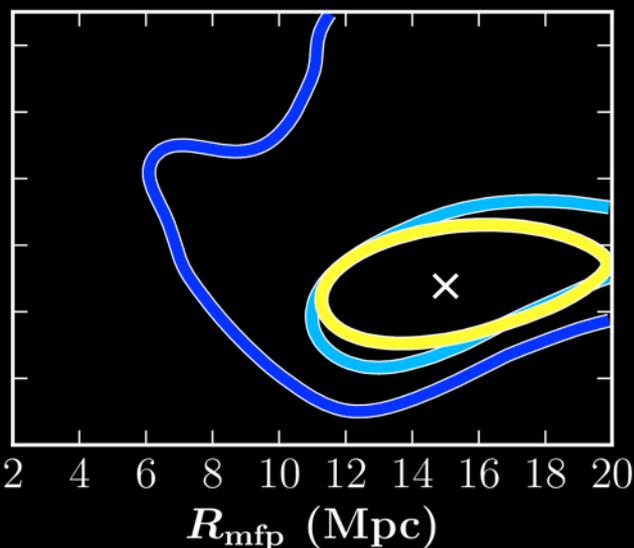
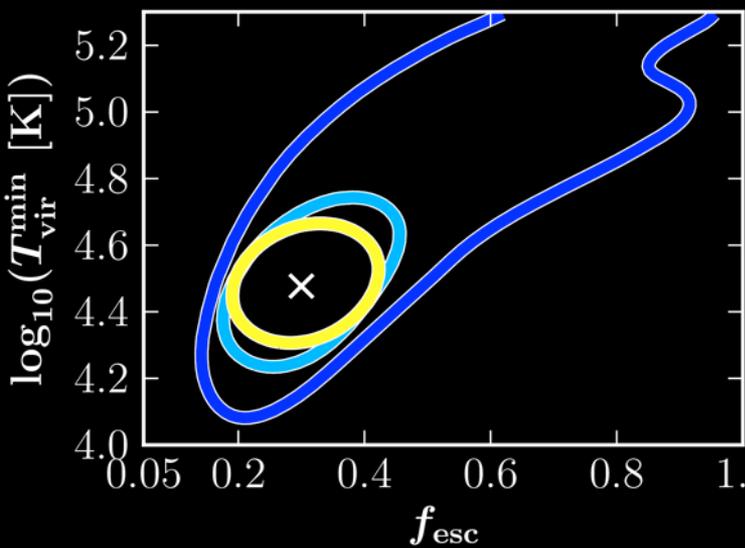
1.00 (1.95)

SKA

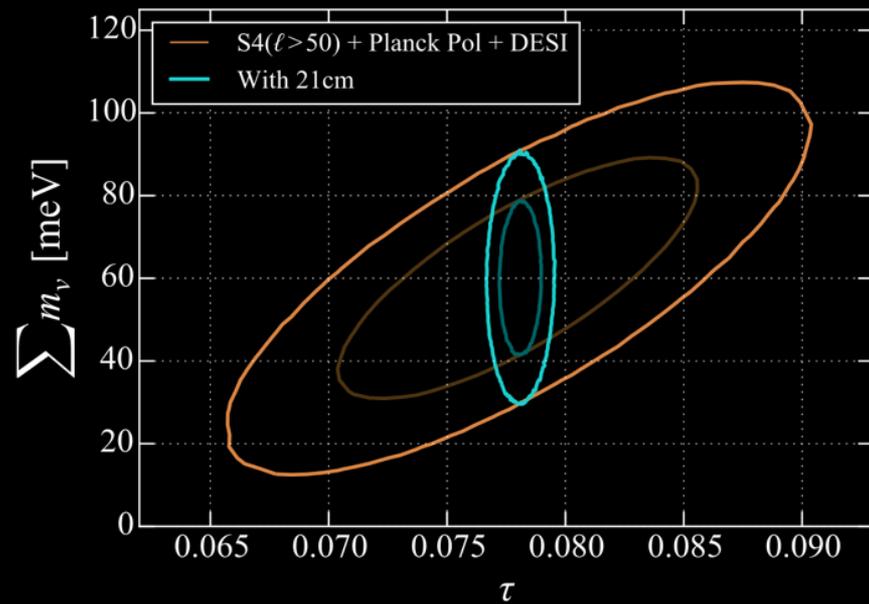
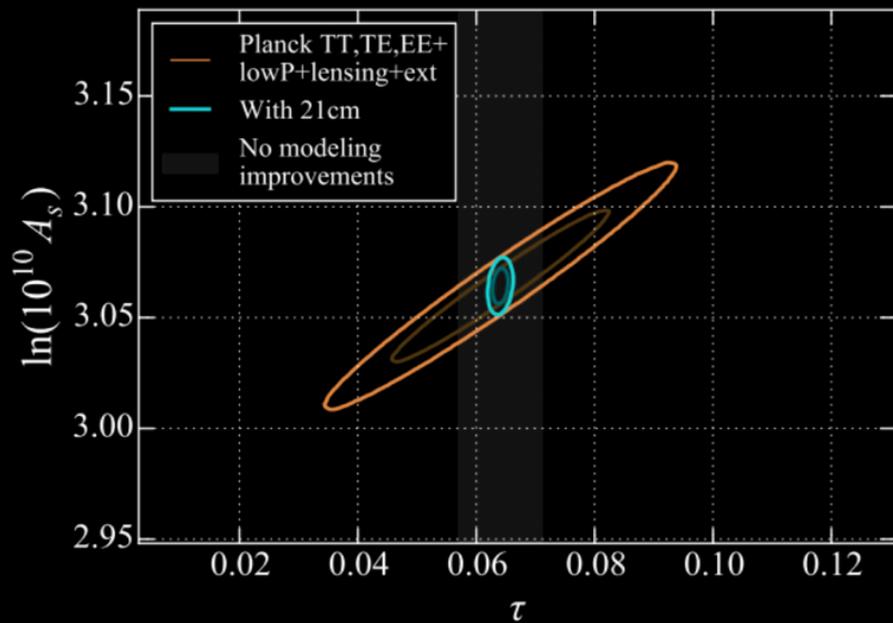
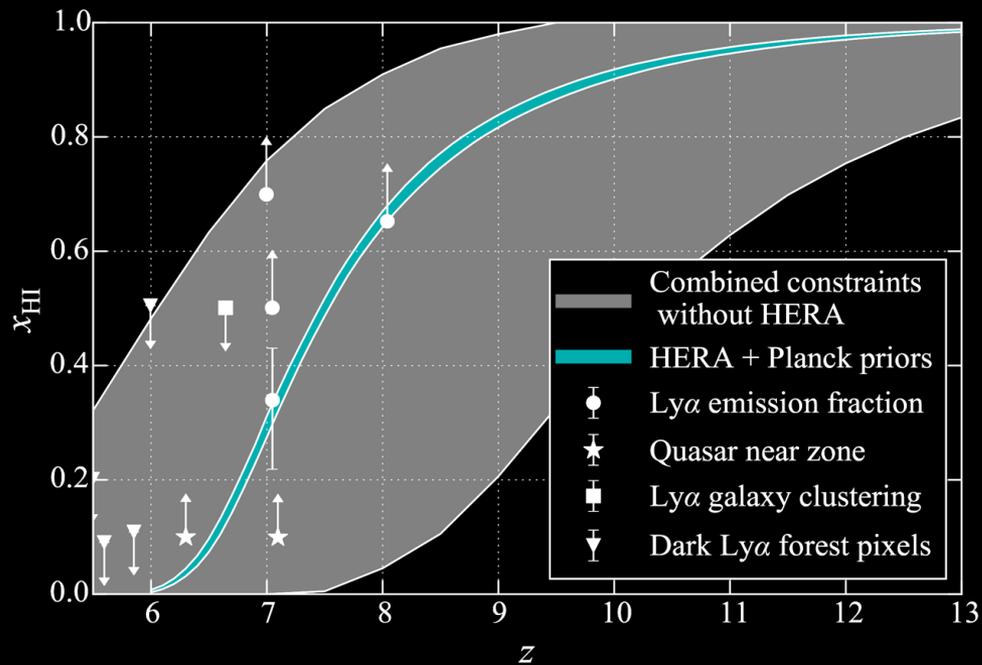
1.02 (6.11)

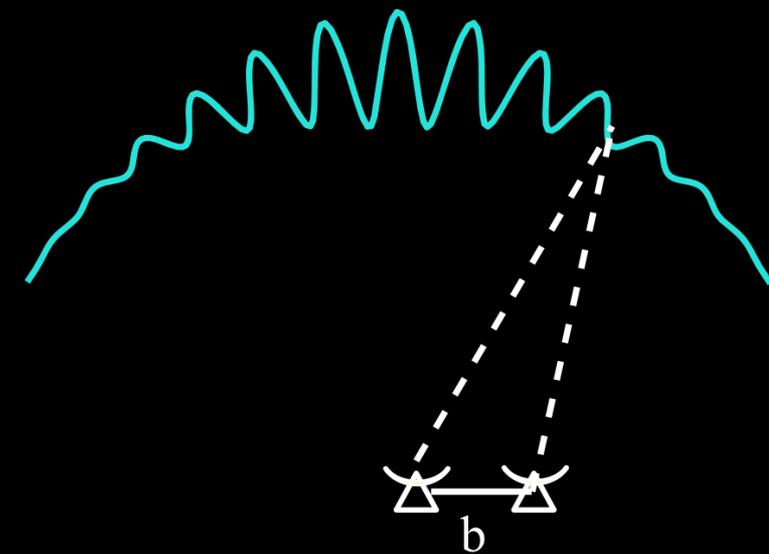
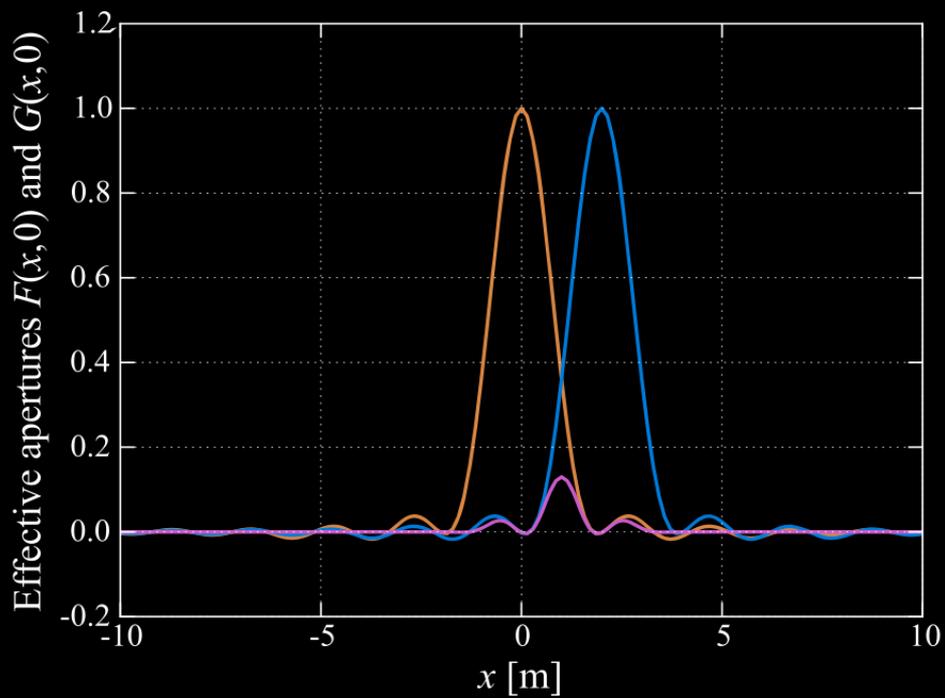
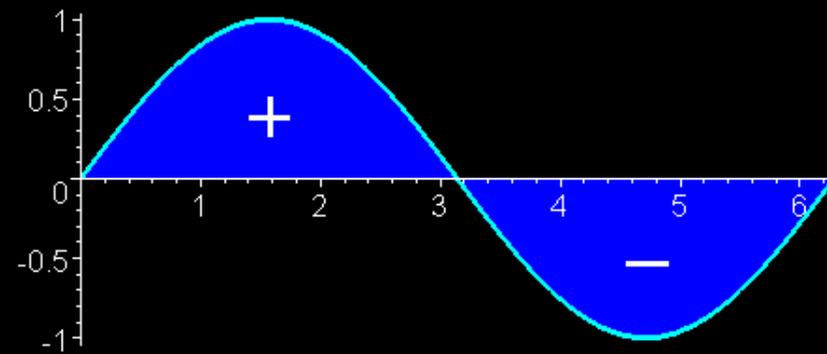
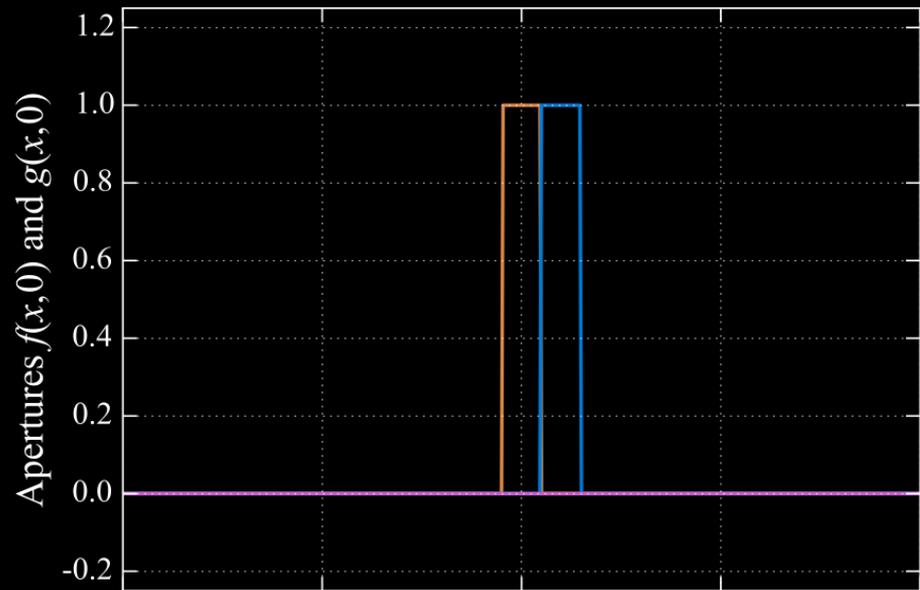
1.00 (10.04)

1.00 (0.96)

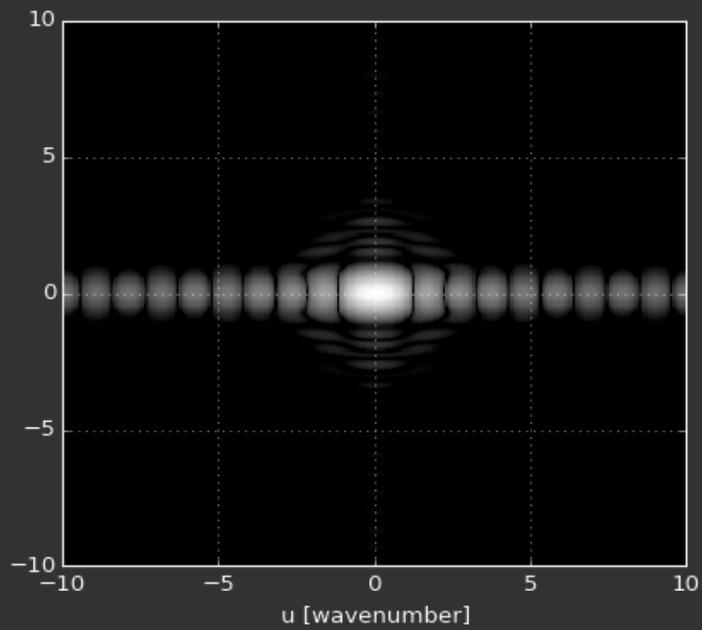
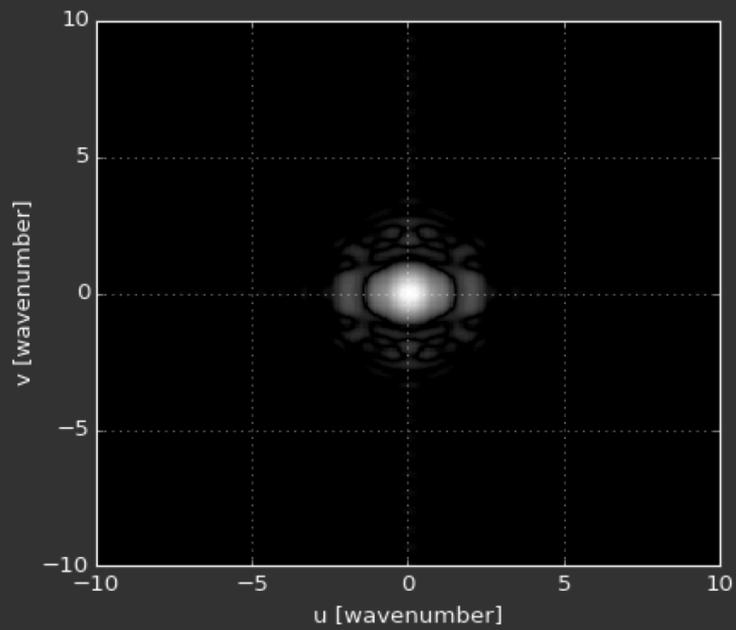
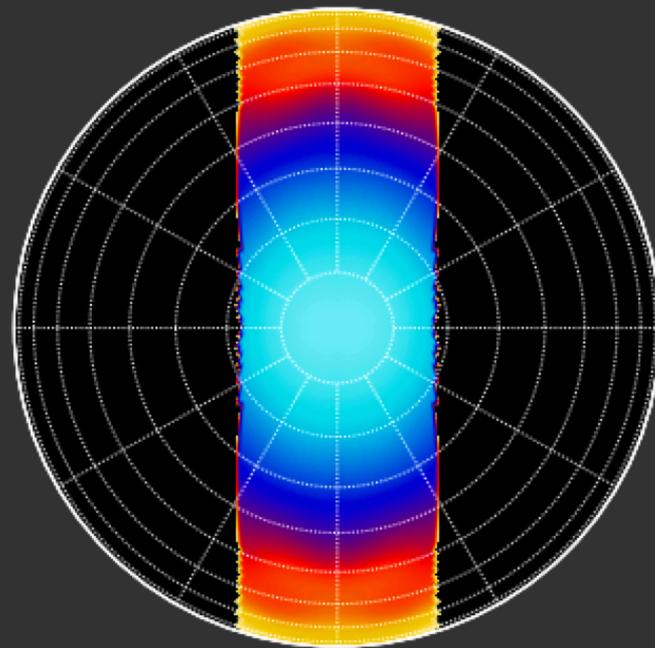
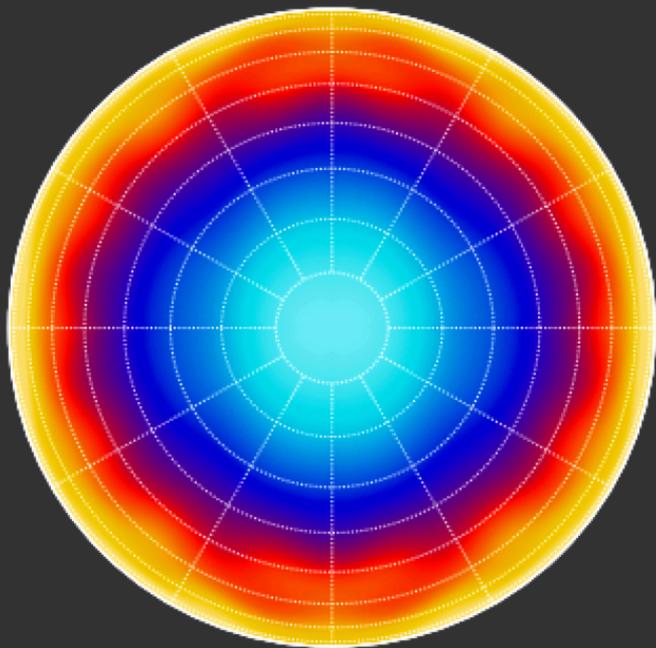


- LOFAR 2σ
- HERA 2σ
- SKA 2σ



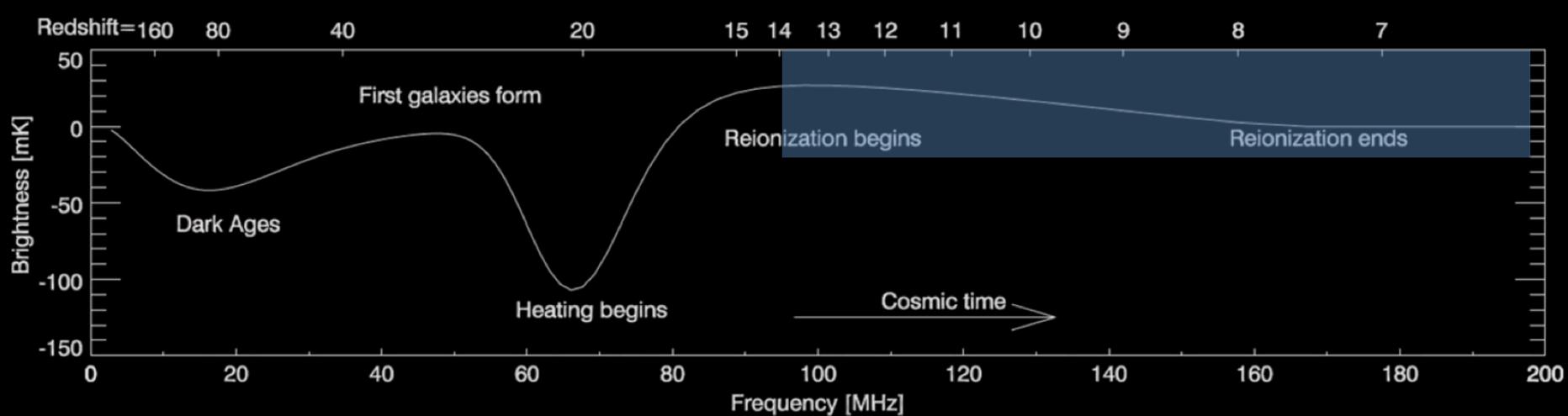


Presley, Liu, Parsons (2015)

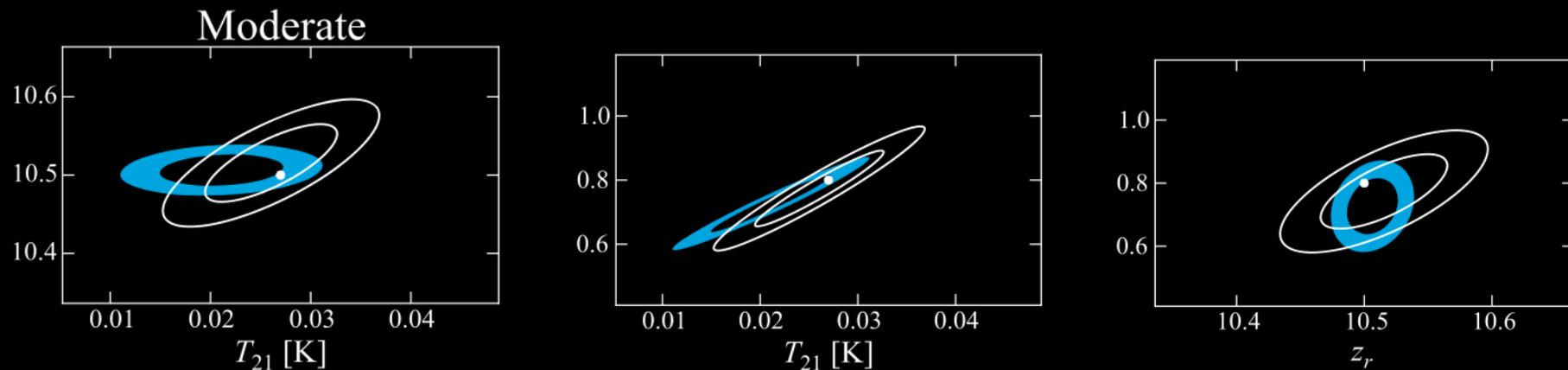


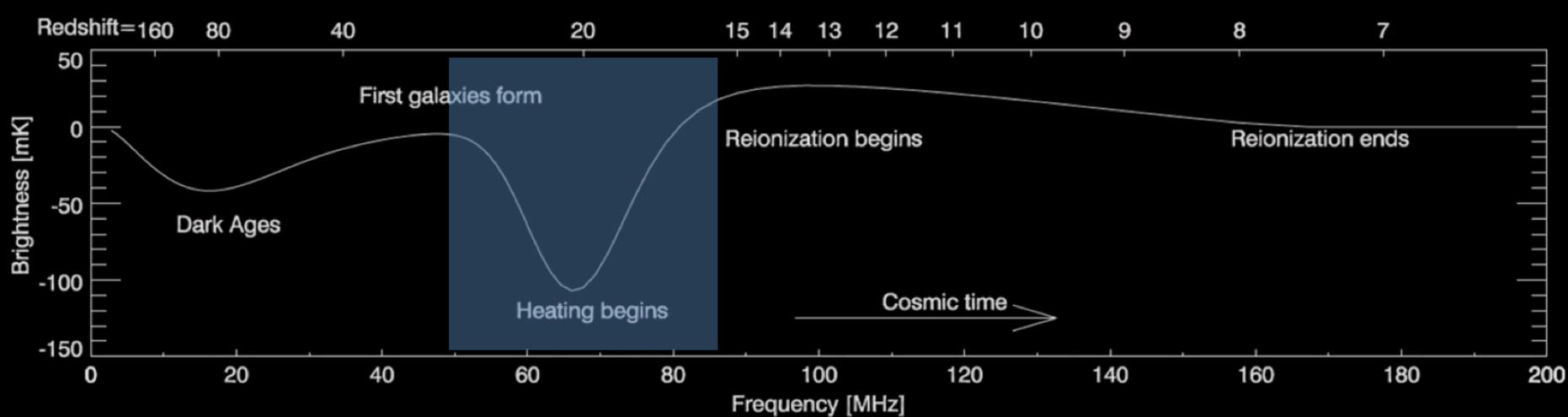
21cm Cosmology: Global + Power Spectrum



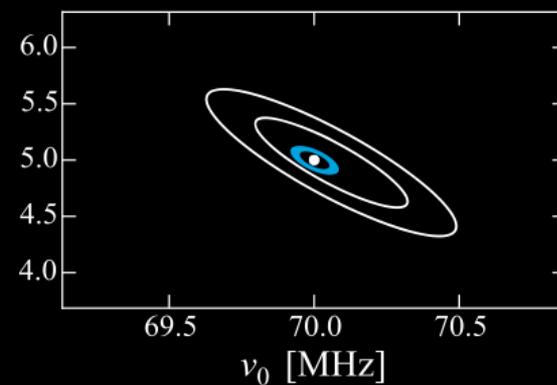
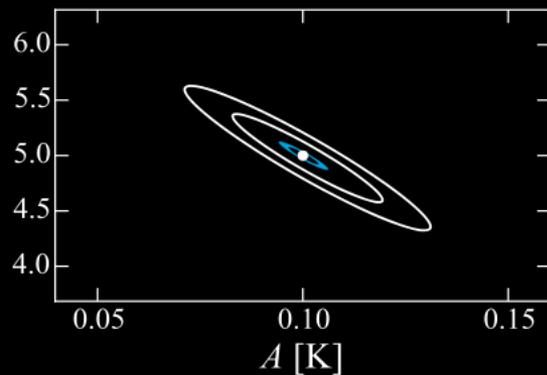
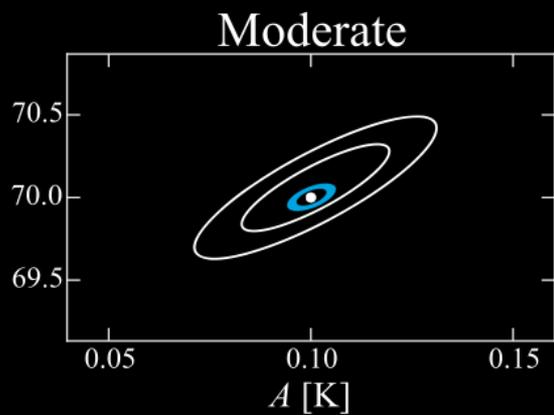


$$T_{\text{reion}}(\nu) = \frac{T_{21}}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1+z}{10}} \left[1 + \tanh\left(\frac{z-z_r}{\Delta z}\right) \right],$$

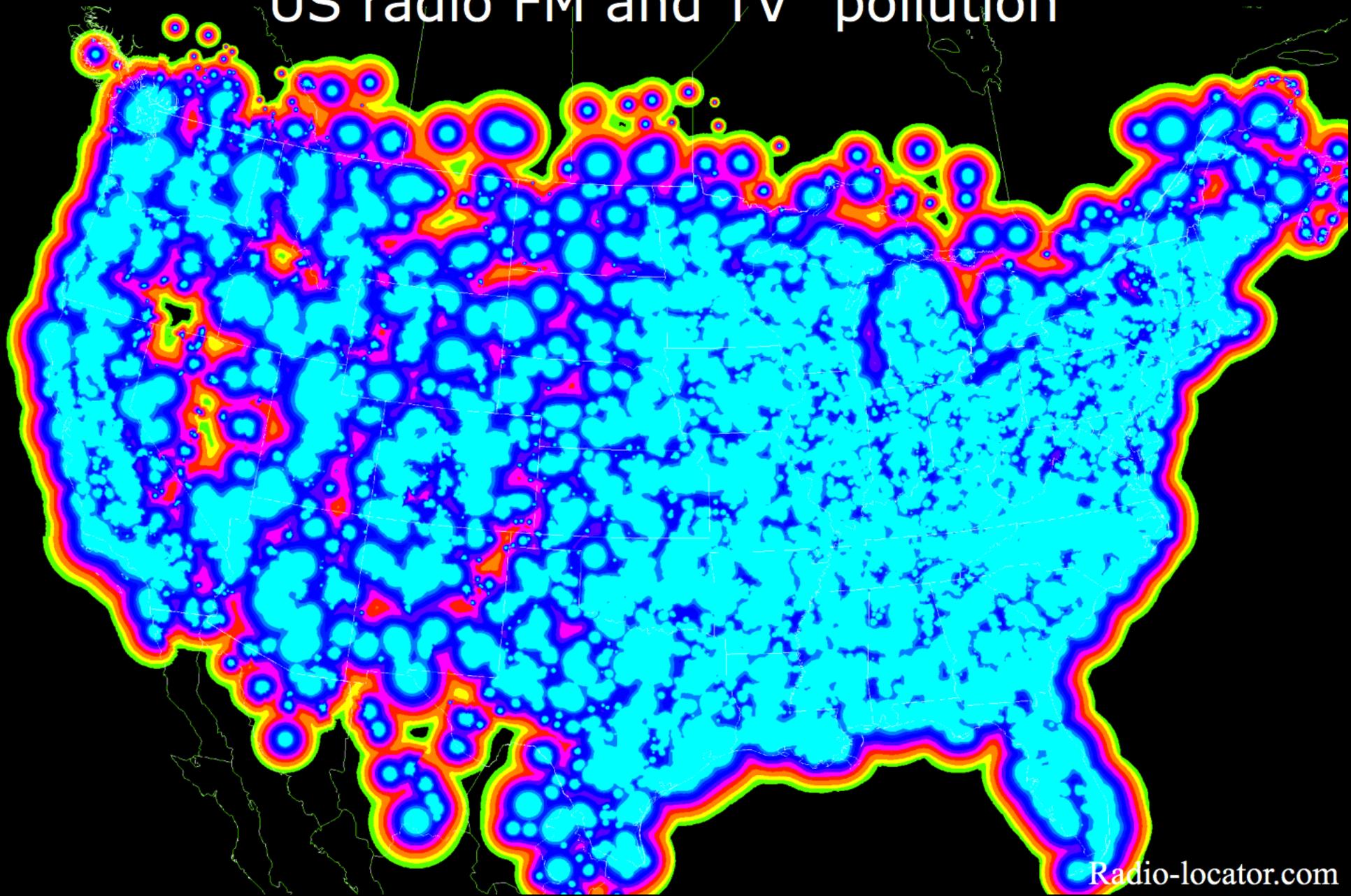




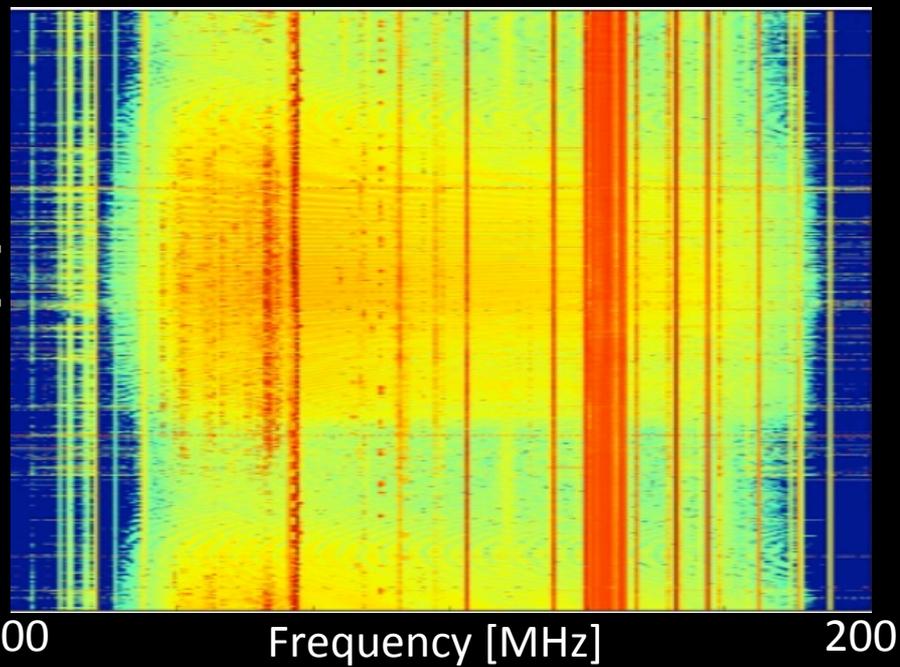
$$T_{\text{dip}}(\nu) = -A \exp\left(-\frac{(\nu - \nu_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right),$$



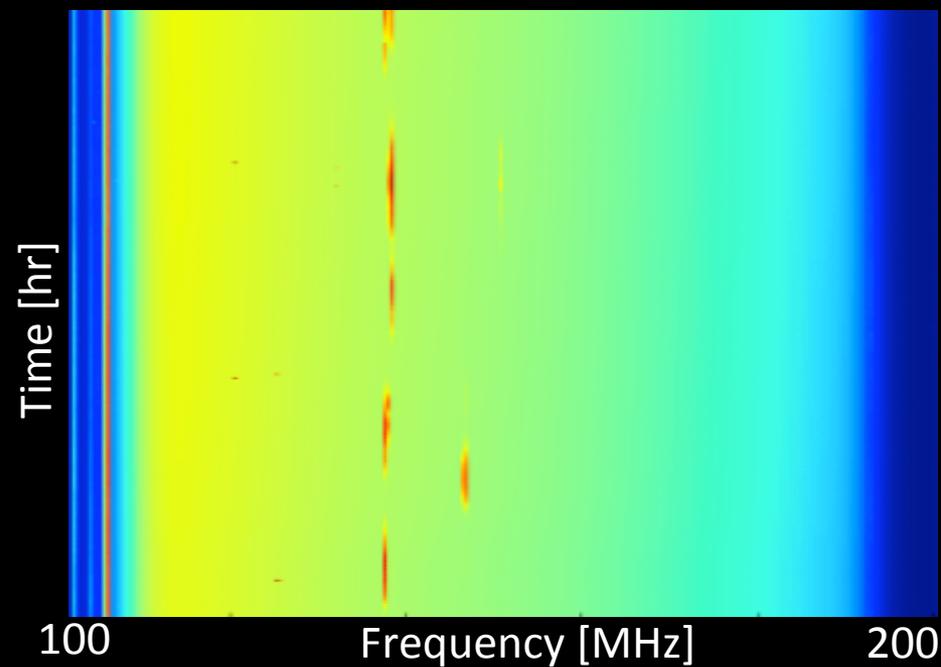
US radio FM and TV "pollution"

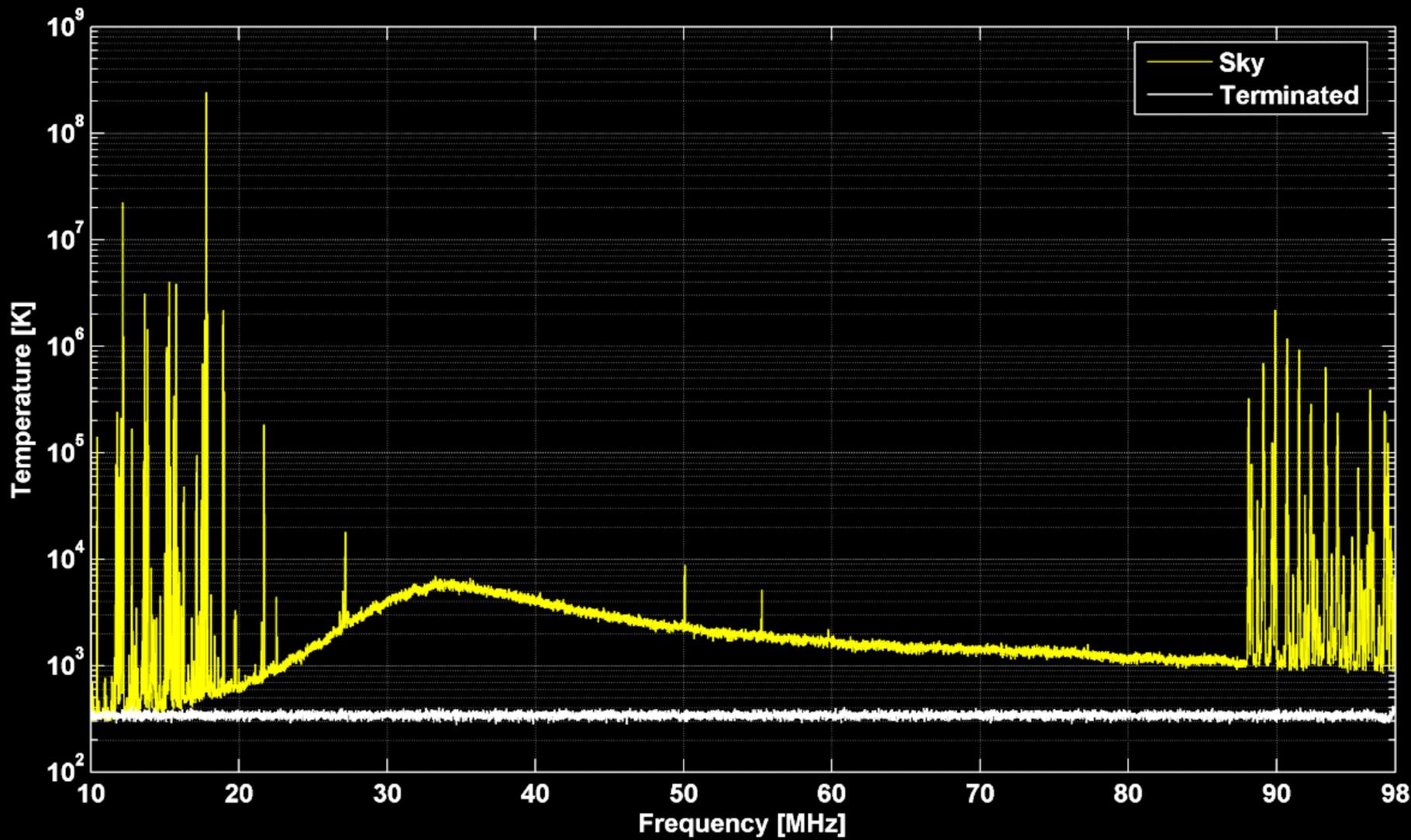


PGB: PAPER Green Bank



PSA: PAPER South Africa





(Ellingson et al. 2013)



- Low Lunar Orbiter
 - Moon as RFI shield
 - Moon as a Tref, mask
 - 1 to 4 elements
- Lunar Lander
 - Far side of moon (shield)
 - 10 to 20 elements
- Future
 - Dark Ages Lunar Array
 - 100s of elements
 - Dark Ages Power spectrum
- The science case
 - cosmology
 - formation of structure
 - first stars and galaxies

